

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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DRC-01 /146 W

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P R 200830Z FEB 74 ZDK

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9637

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

FBIS OKINAWA

CHMAAG CHINA

COMUSTDC

CDR USARFT TAIPEI

327 AIRDIV TAIPEI AS

374 TAW CCKAB TAIWAN/DOI

CINCUSARPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 HONG KONG 1864

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

CINCUSARPAC FOR GPIN-TP

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINT PFOR CH

SUBJ: WEEKLY REVIEW OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA NO. 08

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POUCHED: BUCHAREST, BUDAPEST, JAKARTA, ISLAMABAD, KUALA LUMPUR,
MANILA, NEW DELHI, PHNOM PENH, RANGOON, ROME, SAIGON,
SEOUL, VIENTIANE, USNATO, USMISSIONS, NEVA DISTO, 13AF MANILA,
7TH PSYOP GP OKINAWA, CO AUG 7TH PSYOP GP TAIWAN

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SUMMARY. CHINA'S INTERNAL POLITICAL SCENE CONTINUES TO BE DOMINATED
BY A NEO-CULTURAL REVOLUTION THE EXACT COURSE OF WHICH REMAINS
UNCLEAR. GOOD PUBLIC ORDER AND CALM IS GENERALLY EVIDENT IN
CHINA, ALTHOUGH CONTRASTING AND OFTEN CONFLICTING INDICATIONS OF
THE DIRECTION OF THE MASS MOVEMENT ARE SURFACING. SOME FIELDS OF
ENDEAVOR, SUCH AS COMMERCIAL AND FOREIGN TRADE ACTIVITIES, SEEM
LITTLE AFFECTED WHILE OTHERS, SUCH AS EDUCATIONAL AND
INFORMATIONAL, ARE OBVIOUSLY BEING GALVANIZED BY CAMPAIGN
DEVELOPMENTS. A SIMILAR MIXED PICTURE PREVAILS ON THE INTER-
NATIONAL SIDE WITH REGARD TO CULTURAL EXCHANGES AND VISITS OF
FOREIGNERS. SOME FOREIGN VISITORS AND TRAVELERS ARE EXPERIENCING
DIFFICULTIES WHILE OTHERS REPORT NO ADVERSE EFFECT THUS FAR.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE MOVEMENT
THE NEO-CULTURAL REVOLUTION ADVANCED DURING THE WEEK AMID CONTRASTING
AND AT TIMES CONFLICTING INDICATIONS OF WHERE IT IS HEADING. FOR
EXAMPLE, PLANT PURCHASE AND OTHER COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES GO AHEAD
AT A HIGH LEVEL ALTHOUGH SECTORS OF THE MEDIA CONTINUE TO ATTACK
THE IDEA OF DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY (HONG KONG 1778;
PEKING 287). MASSIVE MANPOWER IS BEING EXPENDED ON POLITICAL
RALLIES AND POSTERS, AND PEOPLE ARE BEING TOLD TO PUT REVOLUTION
AHEAD OF PRODUCTION, BUT THE REPORTED REMARKS OF TWO POLITBURO
MEMBERS SPEAKING IN THE PROVINCES, CHEN YUNG-KUEI AND WEI KUO-
CHING, URGE NEW PRODUCTION EFFORTS; WEI WENT SO FAR AS TO CALL
FOR CONDUCTING THE CURRENT POLITICAL CAMPAIGN DURING WORK SHIFTS
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AND KEEPING BIG MEETINGS TO A MINIMUM (LIAONING RADIO FEBRUARY 14;
KWANGSI FEBRUARY 18). ONE REGIME PROGRAM SEEMS TO PROSPER--
YOUTH AND URBAN WORKERS ARE REPORTEDLY DEMANDING TO BE SENT TO
THE COUNTRYSIDE AS PEASANTS.
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2. THERE IS SOME TENSION, MOST COMMONLY REPORTED BY TRAVELERS
TO THE LONG-TROUBLED CITY OF WUHAN, BUT GOOD PUBLIC ORDER AND CALM

IS GENERALLY EVIDENT (HONG KONG 1755; PEKING 275; PEKING 290).
THE MORE SIGNIFICANT TURN OF EVENTS IS A TREND TOWARD IDENTIFYING
INDIVIDUAL TARGETS OR CASUALTIES. FOREIGN PRESS REPORTS HERE AND
FROM PEKING CLAIM THAT OFFICIALS IN PEKING BROADCASTING CIRCLES
ARE UNDER A CLOUD OVER THE ANTONIONI FILM, AND FOREIGN MINISTRY
PRESS OFFICIAL MA YU-CHEN, POPULAR WITH FOREIGNERS, IS SAID
POSSIBLY TO BE IN TROUBLE (HONG KONG 1755). THE ATTACK ON WESTERN
MUSIC HAS SHARPENED AND PEOPLE'S DAILY HAS SEEMED TO STAB AT A
MUSICIAN WHO GAVE THE PHILADELPHIS ORCHESTRA A WARM REVIEW LAS
YEAR (HONG KONG 1609). CHINA PICTORIAL HAS BEEN CHIDED IN SHANGHAI
MEDIA FOR A LACK OF CLASS CONTENT IN ONE OF ITS ARTICLES
(HONG KONG 1740). PEKING FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS (AND SOME
NEWSMEN HERE) HAVE BEEN WARNED ABOUT THEIR REPORTING (HONG KONG
1720), AND A FOREIGN ANTHROPOLOGIST HAS HAD HIS VISA CANCELLED
IN HONG KONG; CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE TOLD HIM THE MUSEUMS HE WANTED
TO VISIT WERE CLOSED BECAUSE OF THE MOVEMENT (HONG KONG 1774).
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3. IF THE TREND BEARS UP, THE STAGE MAY BE SET FOR MORE
PROMINENT PRC FIGURES TO SUFFER CRITICISM. POISONED PEN ARTICLES
IN THE SHANGHAI JOURNAL STUDY AND CRITICISM, AND IN HONG KONG'S
COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER TA KUNG PAO, CRITICALLY SKETCH A PUBLIC FIGURE
WHO LIKES TO MEET AND ENTERTAIN PEOPLE AND WHO FUSSES ABOUT HIS
FOOD AND DRESS. PREMIER CHOU'S ROLE AS PEKING'S LEADING HOST AND
TOASTMASTER COMES TO MIND, BUT HTIS MAY BE A RED HERRING (HONG
KONG 1750). PRC DOPESTERS HAVE SEEMED AT PAINS TO DISCOURAGE
SPECULATION THAT CHOU IS IN ANY WAY A TARGET, AND THE PREMIER
APPEARED PUBLICLY TWICE DURING THE WEEK. THAI CONGEN HONG KONG
REPORTS THAT IN HIS MEETING WITH RTG DEFENSE MINISTER DAWEE
CHULLASSPYA PREMIER CHOU APPEARED CONFIDENT, ALERT, AND IN GOOD
HEALTH.
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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
FBIS OKINAWA
CHMAAG CHINA
COMUSTDC
CDR USARFT TAIPEI
327 AIRDIV TAIPEI AS
374 TAW CCKAB TAIWAN/DOI
CINCUSARPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 HONG KONG 1864

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

CINCUSARPAC FOR GPIN-TP

4. ESCHANGES AND VISITS

THE EFFECT OF THE ANTI-LIN, ANTI-CONFUCIUS CAMPAIGN ON VISITS
TO THE PRC APPEARS MIXED. A NEW ZEALAND ANTHROPOLOGIST'S VISIT
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WAS CANCELLED AFTER HE HAD ARRIVED IN HONG KONG WITH THE
EXPLANATION THAT THE MUSEUMS HE INTENDED TO VISIT WERE CLOSED
FOR THE CAMPAIGN (HONG KONG 1774). THE PRC DELEGATION TO THE
OPENING OF THE CHINESE ARCHEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION IN VIENNA WAS
ALSO DOWNGRADED AT THE LAST MINUTE, AS THE ORIGINALLY CHOSEN
LEADERS OF THE DELEGATION ALL STAYED BEHIND IN PEKING (PEKING 289)
FOREIGN DIPLOMATS AND NEWSMEN HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN VIRTUALLY
CONFINED TO PEKING. ON THE OTHER HAND, TOURISM FROM HONG KONG
CONTINUES AND A GROUP INCLUDING NEW ZEALAND COMMISSION PERSONNEL
FROM HONG KONG PLAN TO VISIT CANTON NEXT WEEK. USLO REPORTS
THAT THE CAMPAIGN DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE HAD AN ADVERSE EFFECT
ON CHINA'S COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES (PEKING
287). THE CHINESE WILL PRESUMABLY GIVE A WARM RECEPTION TO
ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KENNETH KUANDA WHO IS ARRIVING FOR AN EIGHT-
DAY STATE VISIT.
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5. THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE

NCNA (FEBRUARY 15) REPORTED THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON ENERGY MATTERS, EMPHASIZING THE "FIERCE ARGUMENT" AMONG CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS. IN A STRONG CRITICISM OF U.S. POLICIES, NCNA ASSERTED THE AIM OF THE UNITED STATES WAS TO FORM A UNITED FRONT AGAINST PRODUCING COUNTRIES; TO USE THE ENERGY CRISIS TO TIGHTEN ITS ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONTROL OVER WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN IN ORDER TO "REBUILD ITS HEGEMONIC POSITION IN THE WESTERN WORLD," AND TO PROTECT U.S. OIL INVESTMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WHILE DENIGRATING THE POINTS MADE BY SECRETARY KISSINGER, THE ARTICLE QUOTED FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT WITHOBVIOUS APPROVAL.

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6. SINO-SOVIET

THIS WEEK'S DENUNCIATION OF MOSCOW CENTERED ON SOVIET POLICY TOWARD DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THE USSR'S DESPICABLE ACT OF "BEGGING FOR FOREIGN LOANS." NCNA, FEBRAURY 16, IN TWO SEPARATE ARTICLES QUOTED THAI AND ALBANIAN PERIODICALS WHICH CHARGED THE SOVIETS WITH PLUNDERING THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF ECONOMIC RESOURCES. PEOPLE'S DAILY, FEBRUARY 13, STATED THT WHILE MOSCOW WAS "INORDINATELY AMBITIOUS," IT WAS "WEAK IN STRENGTH AND SHAKY IN FOUNDATION" AND HAS BEEN REDUCED TO BEGGING FOR LOANS FROM THE U.S. AND OTHE CAPITAIST COUNTRIES. THE PAPER
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ALSO DENOUNCED THE SOVIET LEADERS FOR SEELING OUT PART OF THE USSR'S ENORMOUS NATURAL RESOURCES. THE ARTICLE PREDICTED THAT ONE DAY THE GREAT SOVIET PEOPLE WILL CALL THE RULERS TO ACCOUNT AND SHOW THEM NO MERCY.

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7. PARACELA-SPRATLYS

ON FEBRUARY 17 THE PRC REPATRIATED THROUGH HONG KONG THE 43 REMAINING GVN MILITARY PERSONNEL CATURED IN THE KWTTVGUTTBYPETING IN THE PARACLES. SAIGON HAD EARLIER REQUESTED THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS THAT CHINA RELEASE ALL 43 POW'S AT ONE TIME. THE PRC ACCESSION TO THE GVN REQUEST, DESPITE RECENT SAIGON ACTIVITIES IN THE SPRATLYS, ACCORDS WITH OTHER SIGNS OF PEKING'S DESIRE TO DAMPEN REGIONAL TENSIONS OVER PARACELS-SPRATLYS DISPUTE (HONG KONG 1747). NCNA'S ACCOUNT OF THE FEBRUARY 17 RELEASE NOTED THAT MEDICAL ATTENTION AND ENIENT TREATMENT HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THE CAPTIVES AND AVOIDED USING THE OCCASION FOR PROPAGANDA ATTACKS ON SAIGON. THE POW'S WERE IDENTIFIED SIMPLY AS "OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE SAIGON TROOPS." PEKING MEDIA HAVE IGNORED THE ANTI-PRC RALLIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM. HOWEVER, AS PART OF ANOTHER LONG POLEMIC ON THE ANTONIONI FILM, NCNA (FEBRUARYNEQTL CITED A PLA MAN'S STATEMENT THAT THE STRENGTH OF THE PLA HAD BEEN PROVED BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ITS RECENT "VICTORIOUS NAVAL BATTLE" IN THE PARACLES.
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8. VIETNAM

NCNA, FEBRUARY 15, IN ITS ONLY REPORT OF THE RECENT VIETNAM TRADE UNION CONGRESS IN HANOI, CARRIED EXCERPTS FROM SPEECHES GIVEN AT THE MEETING BY LE DUAN AND OTHER DRV LEADERS. NCNA DID NOT REPORT THE MESSAGE TO THE CONGRESS SENT BY THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES. ON FEBRUARY 17, NCNA REPORTED THE DRV FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT OF FEBRUARY 16 DENOUNCING "INTENSIFIED U.S. MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND INTERFERENCE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS." NCNA'S ACCOUNT, HOWEVER, OMITTED THE STATEMENT'S CHARGE THAT THE U.S. HAS MADE "THREATS" AGAINST THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE. MEANWHILE, PEKING GAVE MORE PERFUNCTORY COVERAGE THAN LAST YEAR TO THE FEBRUARY 15 ANNIVERSARY OF THE "SOUTH VIETNAM PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMED FORCES."

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9. THAILAND

ON HIS DEPARTURE FROM PEKING FEBRUARY 13, THAI DEFENSE MINISTER DAWEE CHULLASAPYA REPORTEDLY REEMPHASIZED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN BANGKOK AND PEKING WOULD BE A "STEP BY STEP" PROCESS AND WOULD "TAKE TIME." ACCORDING TO HONG KONG THAI CONGENOFFS WHO MET WITH DAWEE'S ENTOURAGE AFTERWARDS, CHOU EN-LAI TOLD DAWEE RE CHINESE SUPPORT OF THE INSURGENCY IN THAILAND THAT CHINESE ASSISTANCE HAD BEEN EXTENDED IN THE PAST BUT HAS NOW CEASED. CHOU ALSO STATED RE INSURGENT VOICE OF THAI PEOPLE RADIO STATION THAT IT WAS NOT LOCATED IN CHINA. CHOU'S STATEMENTS WERE CONSIDERED SIGNIFICANT BY THAI BECAUSE PREVIOUSLY TOP LEVEL CHINESE LEADERS HAD ONLY MADE EQUIVOCAL OR VAGUE GENERAL REFERENCES TO THIS TOPIC. RE NEWS REPORTS THAT CHOU HAD SAID U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN THAILAND WAS NOT NECESSARY, THAI SAID REMARK HAD BEEN MADE IN PASSING REFERENCE TO U.S. AND THIS SUBJECT CERTAINLY DID NOT CONSTITUTE SPECIFIC POINT FOR DISCUSSION. IN CONTRAST CHOU PLACED SPECIAL EMPHASIS UPON DANGERS POSED BY SOVIETS TO THAILAND AND SOUTHEAST ASIA. PRC WILL BE SELLING 75,000 TONS OF OIL TO THAILAND WITH DETAILS TO BE NEGOTIATED IN HONG KONG.

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